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COSELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(C. HOPE WADDELL, L.R.C.S.I., L.R.C.P.I.)

FOR THE YEAR

1925.

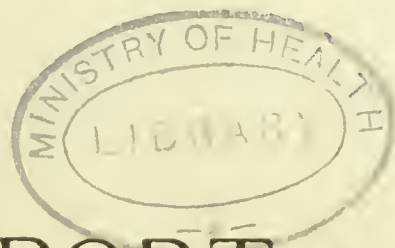
TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE ANNUAL

Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(Printed by Order of the Council.)



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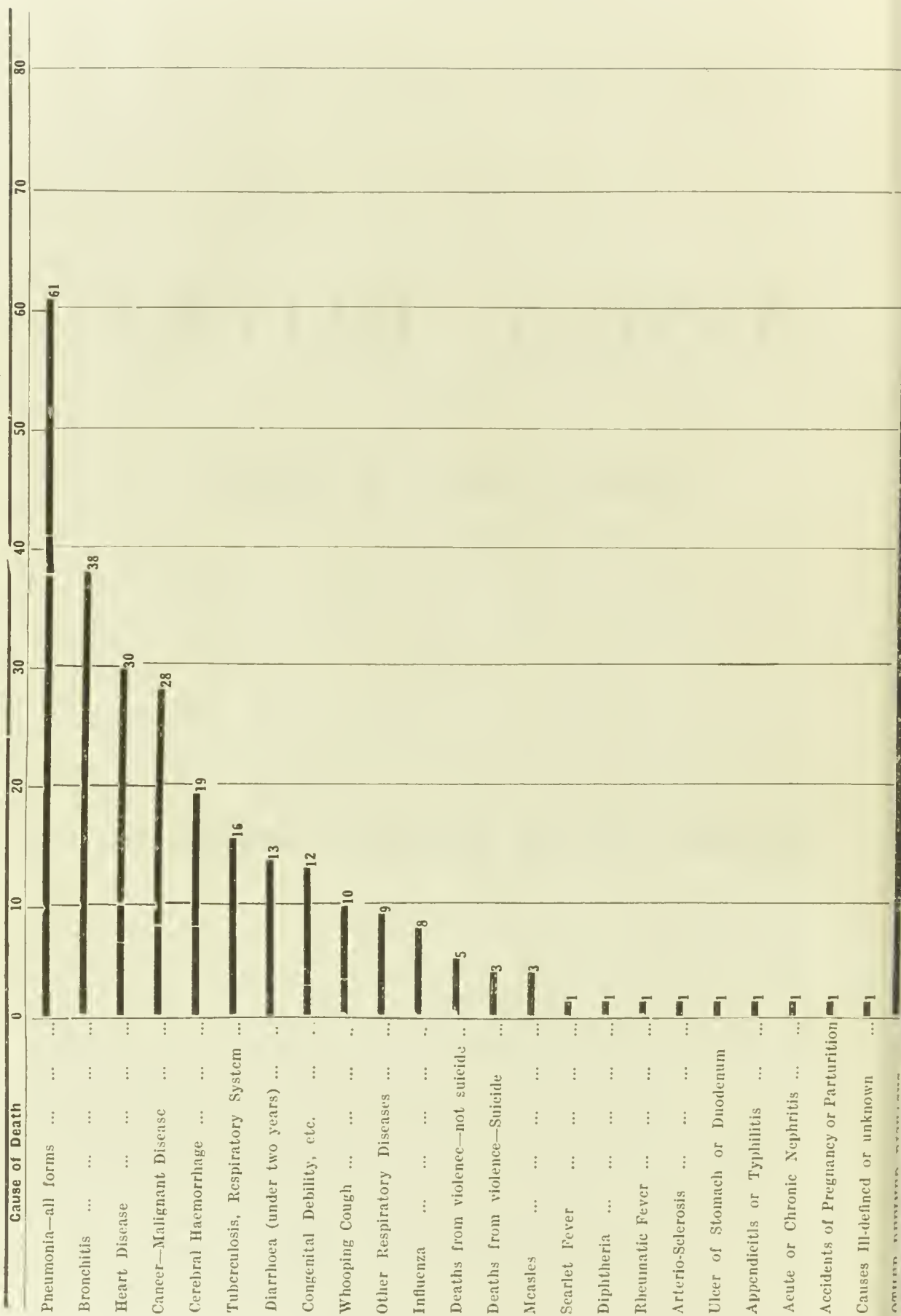
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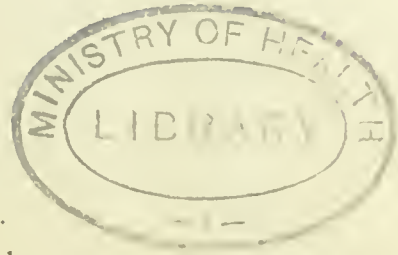
Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(Printed by Order of the Council.)

CHART SHOWING PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH, 1925.



Committees.



HEALTH COMMITTEE.

All the Members of the Council.

Chairman—Mr. Councillor Millard.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Councillors Davies, Fellows, Grange, Greensill, Higgins, Millard,
Pickrell, Smith, Southall, Ward.

Co-opted Member:—Mrs. Grange

HEALTH VISITORS.

Nurse A. M. E. Ball.

Nurse E. J. Moody (10/12).

Nurse L. Roger (2/12).

SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Mr. S. T. Taylor (9 months).

Mr. J. R. Oxenham (2 months).

CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT AND ASSISTANT SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. F. E. Toon.

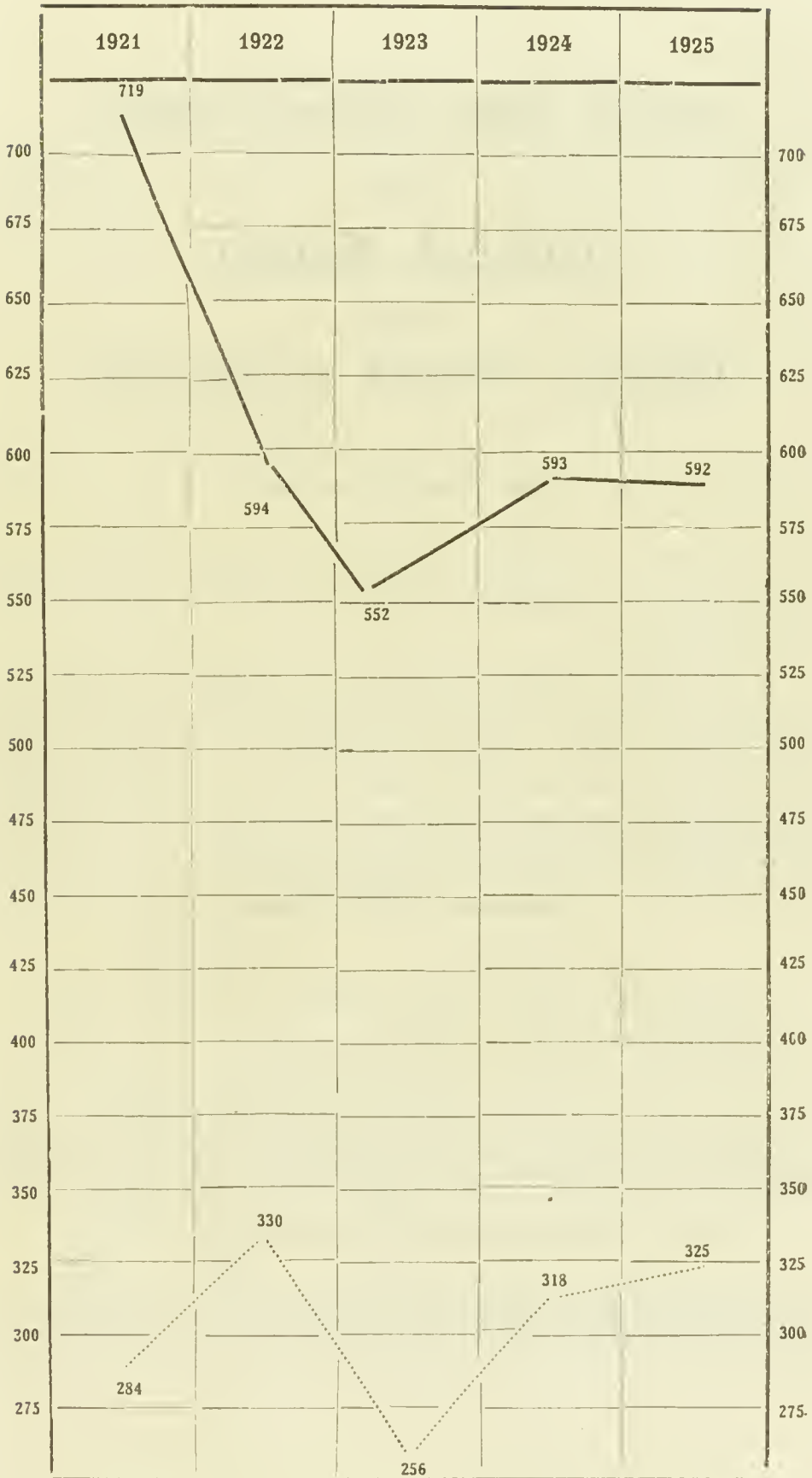
CLERK TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Miss M. E. Wolverson.

SUMMARY.

Area of District	3,737 acres
Birth Rate (per thousand population)	23
Death Rate (per thousand population)	12.6
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	.623
Death Rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis, of children under two years of age (per 1,000 births)	22
Infant Mortality Rate—Deaths under 1 year (per 1,000 births)	9.8
Population (Registrar General's figures)	25,690
Rateable Value	£82,142
Rate—General District	6s. in £
Rate—Poor	8s. 6d. in £
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate (a) General	£245
(b) Poor	£280

CHART SHEWING BIRTHS AND DEATHS
DURING THE YEARS 1921—1925.



Births shown thus ————— Deaths shown thus

COSELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(C HOPE. WADDELL, L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I.)

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

To the Chairman and Members of the Coseley Urban District Council

GENTLEMEN,—

In accordance with the wishes of the Ministry of Health, as recorded in a Circular issued on December the 18th, 1924, I have endeavoured in this—my sixth Annual Report—to make a survey of the progress and improvements made, in the past five years, in the public health service, and of the character and extent of the changes made in that service during the period under review.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of the District	.....	3,737 acres
No. of Inhabited Houses 1921	5100	1925 5,539
No. of Houses made available during 1925	.....	32

Sum represented by a Penny Rate (a) Poor Rate £280
(b) District £245

From these figures it will be seen that the district is an exceedingly poor one, and improvements entailing the expenditure of large sums of money must be almost entirely made up from grants.

Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	1921	24,207
	1925	25,690

It will be seen that during the five years 1921—25 the population had increased by 1483 or just over 6 per cent.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS.

Coseley is bounded on the west by Sedgley, on the south by the County Borough of Dudley, on the north by the County Borough of Wolverhampton and the Urban District of Bilston; on the east by Tipton; while on the south the district impinges on the Borough of Wednesbury.

Its general altitude is high, being at one point 730 feet above sea level, and falling on the east, to 470 feet above sea level.

The natural drainage is by three or four small streams, which, flowing eastward, eventually enter the river Tame, and then the Trent.

The subsoil is mostly clay and the subsoil water is, in some parts exceedingly near the surface.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The population of Coseley in 1911 was 22841, in 1921 24, 207, and in 1925, 25,690. It will thus be seen that the rate of increase in the last five years is slightly larger than in the ten years 1911—21, a fact for which the war was probably responsible.

The population of the district is very unevenly distributed, the chief centres being, Roseville, Hurst Hill, Coseley, Wallbrook, Princes End, Bradley, Parkfield, Woodsetton, and Ladymoor.

In the past, mining subsidences have been frequent and the whole district bears signs of mining operations and of refuse tipped from iron works.

The population consists mainly of ironworkers and colliers, though the number of these has decreased, through the flooding of mines and the closing down of many ironworks. A very large number of males find occupation in the neighbouring towns of Wolverhampton Bilston and Tipton, while many female workers find employment as far away as Birmingham.

OCCUPATIONAL EFFECT ON PUBLIC HEALTH.

Most of the employments of the adult workers of the district, are of a healthy nature but the large number of the juvenile (female) workers, who from lack of local employment, are forced to travel distances so great even as Birmingham, suffer from the long hours, the lack of regular and suitable meals, and the nervous strain of railway, tram and bus travelling, these bringing about various forms of dyspepsia and consequent anaemia.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

During the period under review the office accommodation at the disposal of the Health Department, has been considerably increased, and so has made the work of organisation somewhat easier. The service of a shorthand typist clerk is shared with the Surveyor's Department.

TABLE I
VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE WHOLE DISTRICT DURING
THE FIVE YEARS 1921—1925.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of year.		Net Births.		Net Deaths belonging to the District.			
					Under 1 year age		At all ages.	
	For Death Rate.	For Birth Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1000 population.	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births	Number.	Rate per 1000 population.
1925	25690	25690	592	23	58	98	325	12'6
1924	25780	25880	593	23	45	75'88	318	12'3
1923	25510	25510	552	21'7	30	54'3	256	10
1922	25510	25510	594	23'2	87	146'7	330	13'1
1921	24800	24800	719	29	79	109'9	284	13'86

During the years 1922—1925 the birthrate has remained steady. The number of births in 1921—719—was abnormal and one of the after results of the war. The 1925 death rate—though .3 above that of last year—is 1.26 lower than it was five years ago.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales for 1925 was 12.2.

CHART SHOWING NUMBER OF DEATHS PER 1,000 BIRTHS
IN CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR.



EXTRACTS from VITAL STATISTICS for the year 1921.

Births:—

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	.....	312	269	581
Illegitimate	.....	7	4	11
	Totals	319	273	592
Deaths	.....	181	144	325

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—

Males 33 Females 23 (Two Illegitimate) Total 56

This gives a death rate of 94.6 per 1,000 births as compared with 75.88 last year.

The Birth-rate per 1,000 population is 23 or practically the same as last year. Below I give the figures for the preceeding five years.

Birth-rate per	}	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921
1,000 population		23	23	21.7	23.2	29

The high birth-rate of 1921 viz.:—29 was one of the after results of the war, and the rate seems now to be practically stabilised at about 23. A feature of the last 5 years is the decrease in the number of illegitimate births as is shown by the sub-joined table.

1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
28	18	16	12	11

This shows a reduction from 3.9 in 1921 to 1.8 in 1925.

The number of deaths during the year under review was 325 which gives a death-rate of 12.6 per 1,000

Below I give the number of deaths and the rate per 1,000 for each of the last five years:—

	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921
Number of Deaths	325	318	256	330	284
Death-rate per 1,000 pop.	12.6	12.3	10	13.1	13.86

It will thus be seen that the death-rate for the year 1925 is 1.26 less than for 1921, the average death-rate for the past five years being 12.37.

The appended table gives the deaths from Zymotic Diseases during the year 1925 and the four preceeding years:—

Disease.	1925		1924		1923		1922		1921	
	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G
Measles	1	2	4	3			1	1	6	3
Enteric										
Whooping Cough	5	5					6	2		1
Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs)	8	5	2	1	1	5	4	5	10	5
Scarlet Fever	1			1	2		1		1	
Diphtheria	1			1		1	2		1	
Small Pox										

TABLE II.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1925.

Nett deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year.

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Totals under 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year.
All Causes Certified										
Uncertified										
Measles										
Whooping Cough						4		2		6
Scarlet Fever									1	1
Diphtheria & Croup ...										
Tuberculous Meningitis										
Abdominal Tuberculosis									1	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases										
Meningitis—not Tuberculous							1			1
Convulsions									1	1
Bronchitis			1		1	3	2	3	2	11
Pneumonia—all forms						1	6		3	10
Other respiratory diseases						1				1
Diarrhoea										
Enteritis						2	4	3	1	10
Injury at birth.										
Congenital Malformations	1				1		1			2
Premature Birth	6				6	1				7
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	1	1			2	2	1			5
Other Diseases										
Totals	7	1	1		9	14	15	8	9	56

TABLE III.

Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925 while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	Birthrate Per 1,000 Total Popula- tion	Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population								Rate per 1,000 Births		
		All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years)	Total Deaths under One year
England and Wales—	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79
157 Smaller Towns (1951 Adjust- ed Populations 20,000-50,000)	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74
London - - - - -	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67
COSELEY - - - - -	23.0	12.6	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.04	0.39	0.04	0.31	0.31	22.0	9.46

TABLE VI.
CAUSE OF DEATH.

All Causes	Males	Females	Totals
1. Measles	1	2	3
2. Scarlet Fever	1	0	1
3. Diphtheria	1		1
4. Whooping Cough	5	5	10
5. Influenza	4	4	8
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	8	8	16
7. Other Tuberculous diseases	4		4
8. Cancer, malignant disease	11	17	28
9. Rheumatic Fever	1		1
10. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	10	9	19
11. Heart Disease	18	12	30
12. Arterio Sclerosis	1		1
13. Bronchitis	21	17	38
14. Pneumonia—all forms	42	19	61
15. Other Respiratory Diseases	3	6	9
16. Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum ..	1		1
17. Diarrhoea &c (under two yrs.) ..	8	5	13
18. Appendicitis & Typhilitis	1		1
19. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1		1
20. Accidents and diseases of pregnancy & parturition		1	1
21. Congenital Debility & Malformation, premature birth	7	5	12
22. Suicide	3		3
23. Other deaths from violence	3	2	5
24. Other defined diseases	26	31	57
25. Causes ill-defined or unknown ..		1	1
Totals	181	144	325

TABLE V.
AGES OF INFECTIOUS CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1925.

Notifiable Disease.	At all ages	under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over
Diphtheria	23		4	8	3	7	1	
Erysipelas	8	1			1	4	1	1
Scarlet Fever and Scarletina	21	1	6	13	1			
Oph. Neonatorum	2	2						
Enteric Fever								
Encephalitis Lethargica	2			2				
Puerperal Fever								
Pneumonia	71	4	14	17	10	14	9	3
Pulmonary Tuber.	38			7	9	15	7	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	5	2	2	1				

TABLE VI.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1925.

Notifiable Disease.				Total Number of Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	...	...	...	23	12	1
Scarlet Fever and Scarletina	...	...	...	21	7	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	...			
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...			
Pneumonia	...	...	...	71		61
Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	...	...	43		20
Erysipelas	...	...	...	8		
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	2	2	1

TABLE VII.
TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.				Net cases.				Deaths.			
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1-5	...	...	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—
5-10	...	...	...	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
10-15	...	...	...	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	...	...	...	1	5	—	—	1	1	—	—
20-25	...	...	...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	...	...	...	6	4	—	—	1	3	1	—
35-45	...	...	...	4	1	—	—	3	2	—	—
45-55	...	...	...	5	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
55-65	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and over	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	22	16	2	3	8	8	4	—

The case rate per 1,000 population of the above diseases for Coseley for 1925 is as follows,—the table also showing the case rate for the whole of England and Wales.

	For Coseley	For England & Wales
Measles	0.11	0.13
Whooping Cough	0.39	0.15
Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs.)		
(Rate per 1,000 births)	22.0	8.4
Scarlet Fever	0.04	0.03
Diphtheria	0.04	0.07
Smallpox	0.00	0.00

PREVALENCE of and CONTROL over INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There is no hospital accommodation of any kind in Coseley, arrangements have been made with the following Authorities.

- (a) Wolverhampton Borough Corporation (with regard to Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases).
- (b) Wolverhampton General Hospital (for cases of Typhoid Fever).
- (c) South Staffordshire Joint Smallpox Board.

The above institutions have always been able to provide accommodation when required.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the last seventy years, there has been a startling change in the mortality rate of this disease. In 1847 the death-rate from phthisis was 3.189 per 1000, i.e. when compared with the present death-rate the cause of a quarter of the total deaths. In 1920 the death-rate from this cause was .842. The death-rate in Coseley for 1925 was .623 per 1,000 of population.

Cases of Tuberculosis are visited by the Health Visitors, who send details of their investigations to the County Authorities, and also to the Tuberculosis Officers at Dudley and Wolverhampton, while conferences are also held periodically between the Health Visitors and these Officers.

Owing to highly unfavourable home conditions many cases are greatly handicapped, although bad sanitary conditions are promptly reported and every effort made to get them remedied.

During the year 38 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified and there were five cases notified of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. The deaths numbering four.

ENTERIC FEVER.

There were no deaths from Enteric Fever during the year under review.

INFLUENZA.

Below are given the number of deaths from this disease in each of the years 1921—1925 and also the number of deaths from Pneumonia (all forms).

		1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Influenza	...	10	11	3	24	8
Pneumonia	...	46	50	33	49	61

PUERPERAL FEVER.

No cases were notified of this disease, neither were there any deaths.

The number of deaths during the past five years were:—

1925 ... 0; 1924 ... 1; 1923 ... 1; 1922 ... 1; 1921 ... 1.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

2 cases were notified during 1925.

MEASLES.

There were three deaths from measles. Last year there were 7.

WHOOPING COUGH.

The death-rate from this disease was very much higher than in any of the previous years e.g.—

1925	1924	1923	1922	1921
10	0	0	8	1 death

During the year under review there was a severe epidemic of Whooping Cough and there were 6 deaths of children under 1 year of age from this disease.

DIARRHOEA & ENTERITIS.

In 1925 there were 13 deaths from this disease of children under two years, of age. This is the highest rate of mortality since 1921 when there were 15 deaths.

1925	1924	1923	1922	1921
13	3	6	9	15 deaths

CLINICS AND WELFARE CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres:—

(a) West Coseley—Ebenezer Baptist Schoolroom.

(b) East Coseley—Primitive Methodist Schoolroom, Bradley.

HEALTH VISITOR'S REPORT.

EAST DIVISION OF COSELEY.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK FOR THE YEAR, 1925

Number of Birth enquiries	.....	.....	.....	.....	294
" " Re-visits under 1 year	.....	.....	.....	.....	1770
" " Re-visits from 1 to 5 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	3704
" " Tuberculosis Visits (affecting 40 cases)	.....	.....	.....	.....	267
Total -					6035

Of the Birth enquiries there were:—

Breast Fed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	271
Hand Fed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Mixed Fed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Stillborn	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6

The Welfare Centre is held at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Hallgreen Street, Bradley.

The Centre has been open each week during the year except Christmas week.

The number of Babies who attended was as follows:—

Under 1 year	.....	499	Babies made	1391	attendances	
Between 1 and 2 years	172	"	"	356	"	
" 2 and 3 years	31	"	"	51	"	
" 3 and 4 years	6	"	"	6	"	
" 4 and 5 years	18	"	"	31	"	
	<u>726</u>			<u>1835</u>		

WEST DIVISION OF COSELEY.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK FOR THE YEAR, 1925

Number of Birth enquiries	.....	.....	.....	.....	219
" " Re-visits under 1 year	.....	.....	.....	.....	1378
" " Re-visits from 1 to 5 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	2765
" " Tuberculosis Visits (affecting 41 cases)	.....	.....	.....	.....	230
					<u>4373</u>

Of the Birth Enquiries there were:—

Breast Fed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	198
Hand Fed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Died within 11 days	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Stillborn	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5

The Welfare Centre is held in the Baptist School Room, Ebenezer Street, Roseville.

The Centre was opened on fifty weeks.

The number of Babies who attended was as follows:—

Under 1 year	.....	390	Babies make	1023	attendances	
Between 1 and 2 years	105	"	"	206	"	
" 2 and 3 years	8	"	"	12	"	
" 3 and 4 years	1	"	"	1	"	
	<u>504</u>			<u>1242</u>		

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

	Live Births	Still Births
By Doctors	145	3
By Midwives	420	9
Totals	565	12

DAY NURSERIES.

There are no Day Nurseries in Coseley.

SCHOOL CLINICS

There are two in the area—one at Mount Pleasant School, the other at Parkfield School.

Appended is a summary of the work done by them:—

MOUNT PLEASANT.

No. of Sessions

42.

	Boys	Girls	Total
No. of cases treated	261	222	483
Re-attendances	761	611	1372

DEFECTS	Boys	Girls	Total
Verminous conditions including nits and their sequela			
Scalp	2	38	40
Body			
Ringworm:			
Scalp	7	4	11
Body	3	8	11
Impetigo	143	94	237
Eczema	13	11	24
Dermatitis	2	1	3
Other septic conditions	72	41	113
Eye:			
Blepharitis	2	5	7
Conjunctivitis	18	10	28
Other conditions		3	3
Minor injuries	9	7	16
Burns and Scalds	6	3	9
Measles	2	1	3
Mumps	1		1
Totals	280	226	506

PARKFIELD ROAD.

No. of Sessions	.....	.....	43.	
No of cases treated	.....	.....	Boys 162	Girls 98
Re-attendances	.....	.....	447	256
				Total 260
				703

DEFECTS	Boys	Girls	Total
Verminous conditions including nits and their sequela			
Scalp	10	5	15
Body			
Ringworm:			
Scalp	2	3	5
Body	2	2	4
Impetigo	81	42	123
Eczema	5	3	8
Dermatitis		2	2
Ichthyosis		1	1
Other septic conditions	45	28	73
Eye:			
Blepharitis	4		4
Conjunctivitis	1	3	4
Other conditions	3		3
Minor injuries	20	9	29
Burns and Scalds	2	3	5
Totals	175	101	276

TREATMENT CENTRE FOR VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Huts, General Hospital, Wolverhampton. (Provided by the Staffordshire County Council).

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health C. H. Waddell, L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector (Jan.—Sept.)—S. T. Taylor, R.S.I. Certificates in Sanitation and Meat and Foods Inspection. Certificates in Hygiene, Physiology and Chemistry. A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

„ „ (Nov.—Dec.)—J. R. Oxenham, R.S.I. Certificates in Sanitation and Meat and Foods Inspection. Certificates in Sanitary Law, Sanitary Science, Chemistry, Physics, Hygiene Building Construction. M.I.H., A.R.San.I. M.S.I.A.

Cleansing Superintendent and Assistant Sanitary Inspector—F. E. Toon, Member of the Institute of Cleansing Superintendents.

Health Visitors.

Miss A. M. E. Ball, State Registered Nurse, trained for three years at Wolverhampton General Hospital. R.S.I. Certificate for Health Visitors and School Nurses. Member of the College of Nursing.

„ „ (Jan.—Sept.)—Miss E. J. Moody, State Registered Nurse, trained for three years at Farnham Infirmary. Certificate of Central Midwives Board. Member of College of Nursing.

„ „ (Nov & Dec.)—Mrs. L. Roger Certificate of the Central Midwives Board. R.S.I. Certificate for Health Visitors and School Nurses.

All the above are whole time officers (with the exception of the Medical Officer of Health, who is part time only) and contributions are made to the salaries of all these officials by the Ministry of Health.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS.

There is no Maternity Hospital in the area. In the adjoining area of Tipton, a training Home for Maternity nurses with accommodation for lying-in patients, has been opened, and has been availed of by many patients from this district.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS.

There are no hospitals for children in the district of Coseley, neither are there any Institutions for illegitimate infants and homeless children. There is available in Wolverhampton, institutional treatment for unmarried mothers.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (a) For Infectious cases—The Wolverhampton Borough Corporation allow the use of their "Infectious" Ambulance.
- (b) Non-infectious and accident cases—The Bilston & Coseley District Ambulance and the Wolverhampton General Hospital Ambulance together with ambulances maintained and staffed by works in the district are available.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

All examinations of specimens are made at the Staffordshire County Laboratory, Lichfield, under arrangements made by the County Council. No use has been made of the Shick and Dick test in Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

The number of women who died in—or in consequence of child-birth, were—

MILK SUPPLY.

Much of the milk sold is produced in the district, though some is derived from outside areas and there is a growing demand for sterilised milk in bottles. The mode of distribution is by churns and cans in milk "floats." Vendors do not always take sufficient care to keep the milk free from dust, though there is some improvement in this direction.

The cleanliness of some of the vendors and of their vehicles is not always of as high a standard as I should like to see.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water—The water supply is derived mainly from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Co., the Bilston Urban District Council and the Wolverhampton Corporation Waterworks. There are very few wells and these seem free from danger of contamination, though efforts are made to induce all property owners to obtain their water from the above named sources.

Drainage and Sewerage—There is not at present, a working system of sewerage disposal, but a large scheme has been commenced and at least half the district has been sewered, and is about to be connected up with a sewerage disposal works. This scheme has been long delayed owing to mining subsidences and the heavy cost of same falling on the ratepayers of a very poor district.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Ashpits	2130	Ashbins	342
Privy Middens	227	Pail Closets	64
Privy Vaults	3423	Water Closets	357

During the period covered by this survey 176 additional ashbins have been installed.

SCAVENGING.

The scavenging has been well carried out under the supervision of the Surveyor, Mr. G. E. Mitchell. A fair amount of tar spraying has been done, and the roads so sprayed, as well as the adjoining areas are much freer from dust than the roads not treated in this manner, with a consequently less likelihood of persons contracting infectious diseases during dusty weather. The extended application of tar to other than main roads is very desirable both from a health point of view and for economy with regard to the cost of scavenging, and general up-keep.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOMES.

There is no home nursing Association either public or voluntary in the district.

MIDWIVES.

All the midwives practising in the district are certified. No midwife is subsidised or employed by the Council.

ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYE-LAWS IN FORCE.

Public Health Acts, Amendment Act 1890 (Partly).

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act 1890.

Public Health Acts, Amendment Act 1907 (Section 86).

BYE-LAWS.

Nuisances.

Cleansing & Footways and Pavements.

Tents, Vans & Sheds.

Management of Mortuary.

Common Lodging Houses.

Slaughterhouses.

REGULATIONS—Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

The Public Health Act 1925 came into operation on September 8th. Part VII which is now in force gives power for removal to hospital of certain cases of Tuberculosis which are without proper accommodation.

Contributions to local hospitals are authorised.

Parts II—V (inclusive).

CLEAN MILK.

Clean milk is an absolute essential to the well being of a district for the health-giving (and the up-keeping) properties of this most valuable food is considerably limited by the bacteria which are introduced through unclean handling. Right methods of handling are of far greater importance than the most imposing and up-to-date buildings and such methods can be carried out in the class of buildings which prevail in the district of Coseley.

It would be well if all cow-keepers made themselves acquainted (through visits and the like) with the best methods in vogue to lessen the dangers of dirt in milk. And it would be well also if all users of milk made themselves familiar with the conditions which accompany the production and the distribution of this most important part of their daily food. Clean milk means not only safer milk but sounder milk, for the one kind keeps much longer than the other. In no cowshed should the following precautions be neglected:—The shed should be well swilled down before and after milking; the parts of the cow which are apt to accumulate dirt—the flanks, the tail, and the udder—should not only be regularly washed but also clipped.

Before each milking the teats and udders should be washed and carefully wiped. The milkers should not begin their tasks without carefully washing their hands, and their caps and overalls should always be scrupulously clean.

If the above details were attended to, good would result, not only to the user, but also to the milk producer, for inevitably more milk would be used. The average daily consumption of milk in this country is only one-third of a pint per head, which is below the average of most countries. Cleaner milk would undoubtedly create a greater demand.

Analysis of samples of milk taken in the Coseley District during 1925:—

MILK.

DISTRICT.	No. of Samples taken	Genuine	Adulterated
COSELEY	12	12	Nil
WOODSETTON	1	1	Nil
HURST HILL			
PARKFIELD	3	3	Nil
BRADLEY (Coseley)	8	8	Nil
PRINCES END	6	6	Nil

UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

No special provision is made for these in Coseley except that the same facilities at Centres and Clinics are open to them as in all other cases.

During the five years now under review there were 85 illegitimate births and the average death-rate of such children during the first twelve months after birth was 5.3.

During the period under review there has been a steady decrease both in the number of illegitimate children born and in the percentage of deaths of such children during their first year of life.

In 1921 there were 28 illegitimate births and the infantile mortality rate among them was 8.8 per cent. In 1925 there were only 11 illegitimate births with an infantile mortality rate of 3.5 per cent. In 1923 and 1924 no illegitimate children died under 1 year of age.

TABLE OF ILLEGITIMACY, 1921—1925.

YEAR.	Total No of Births.	No. of illegitim't Births.	Per cent- age of illegitim't Births.	Total No of Deaths under 1 Year	No. of illegiti- mate Deaths under one Year.	Percent'e of illegit- imate Deaths under 1 Year
1921	719	28	4	79	7	8.8
1922	594	18	3	87	7	8
1923	552	16	3	30	0	
1924	593	12	2	45	0	
1925	592	11	1.8	58	2	3.5
Totals	3050	85	2.8	299	16	5.3

The tables not separately commented upon need no further explanation.

Yours faithfully,
C. HOPE WADDELL.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

During the year 254 Complaints were received and investigated. There were 3,593 Routine Inspections made and these are analysed in Table I. The Sanitary Defects discovered during these inspections (and for which notices were served) numbered 2,076—640 premises being concerned. These defects are analysed in Table II. The action taken resulted in 918 Improvements affecting 384 premises; the improvements are analysed in Table III.

PARTICULARS OF NOTICES SERVED.

	Jan.—Oct.	Nov.—Dec.	Total
Intimation Notices	224	63	287
Statutory Notices	48	6	54
Miscellaneous Notices	4	0	4

NOTICES COMPLIED WITH.

Intimation Notices 203; Statutory Notices 37; Miscellaneous Notices 4. No legal proceedings were taken during the year for non-compliance with the Statutory Notices.

HOUSING INSPECTION.

The number of houses inspected during the year was 237—124 of these being examined under the Housing Acts, of these 81 were recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910. At 63 of the houses so inspected, satisfactory improvements were effected.

No notices were served under Section 28 of the Housing Act 1919. One Closing Order was determined during the year, the house concerned being put into a satisfactory condition.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES AND ASH ACCOMODATION.

Type	Existing at the end of—			1923	1924	1925
Water closets	...	...	247	315	330	357
Waste Water Closets ...	...	...	6	6	6	6
Pail Privies	...	...	54	56	58	64
Privy Vaults	...	...	3447	3421	3413	3423
Privy Middens	...	...	227	227	227	227
Ashpits ...	...	...	2159	2148	2136	2130
Ashbins ...	...	...	83	109	156	342

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Slaughterhouses within the District.

		In 1920	In Jan. 1925	In Dec. 1925
Registered Slaughterhouses	...	1	1	1
Licensed	„	11	9	8
		12	10	9

During the year one slaughterhouse license was surrendered, the holder preferring to do this rather than comply with requirements. A notice served with regard to another slaughterhouse was complied with.

On the whole, the slaughterhouses are kept clean, but covered galvanised receptacles for offal might be adopted with advantage. 465 visits were made to the slaughterhouses, as often as possible, at a time coincident with slaughter, or within three hours of its completion.

The carcasses examined at slaughterhouses during the year were:—

Bullocks	Cows and Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Lambs	Pigs
18	224	34	662	156	221

Every butcher having a slaughterhouse within the Urban Area was supplied with a copy of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, which came into force during the year. A typed copy of Section 5 of the aforesaid Regulations, was issued to each of the 146 Meat Shops within the Urban Area. No arrangements are made for meat marking in the district.

143 visits were made to private premises, on notice of occasional slaughter and 191 pigs were examined.

Since records have been kept approximately 649 lbs of meat have been condemned and destroyed. This consisted largely of offal, but in one case a whole pig carcass was condemned being oedematous.

In addition a box of fish (126 lbs) was condemned and destroyed.

BAKEHOUSES.

There were 12 bakehouses upon the Register at the end of the year, and 37 visits were paid to these, during the year. With one exception the premises were found satisfactory.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

At the end of the year there were 24 persons registered as Cow-keepers and Purveyors of Milk. One such registration was cancelled during the year.

22 persons were registered as Purveyors of Milk; two such registrations were cancelled during the year.

In addition 7 persons from outside the district were registered as Purveyors of Milk and 7 persons were registered as retail purveyors of sterilized or bottled milk.

74 visits have been paid to cowsheds and 24 to milkshops. The standard of the milk trade throughout the district requires raising to a far higher level.

Notices were served upon 3 cowsheds and improvements effected.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

The number of visits made during the year under this Act amounted to 127.

The 97 workshops upon the register at the end of the year were composed of the following:—

Tailoring	25
Builders and Decorators	18
Boot Repairing	12
Bakehouses	12
Wheelwrights	6
Dressmaking	4
Boat Builders and Repairers	4
Miscellaneous	16

Notices were served regarding defects at 2 factories and 4 bake-houses, and improvements were effected.

No steps were taken during the year to abate smoke nuisances.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES. (Home Office Return).

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories (including factory laundries)	19	2	Nil
Workshops (including workshop laundries)	67	3	Nil
Workplaces (other than outworkers premises)	7	1	Nil
TOTAL	93	6	

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of defects.			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts				
Want of cleanliness	3	3	Nil	Nil
Want of ventilation	—	—	"	"
Overcrowding	—	—	"	"
Want of drainage of floors	1	1	"	"
Other nuisances	1	1	"	"
Sanitary Accommodation:				
Insufficient	—	—	"	"
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	"	"
Not separate for sexes	—	—	"	"
TOTAL	6	6		

OUTWORKERS.

Seven lists of outworkers were received during the year, and were concerned with 7 firms who employed 16 outworkers. No case was reported of infectious disease at any of the outworker's homes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following notifications were received and investigated during the year:—Scarlet Fever 21; Diphtheria 23; Encephalitis Lethargica 2.

Records of 29 cases were filed and the removal to hospital was supervised in the following instances :— 7 cases of Scarlet Fever; 12 cases of Diphtheria; and 2 cases of Encephalitis Lethargica.

In the routine inspections 34 cases of Infectious disease were visited and 34 premises fumigated. In all cases liquid disinfectant was supplied free to householders of infected premises.

The Schools were sprayed with disinfectant solution twice during the year, under the supervision of this Department and the Council Offices were sprayed once by this Department.

GENERAL.

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the district. Offensive Trade Premises are also absent from the district, but for the purpose of routine visits, fish-frying premises are so classed, and the Authority would be well advised to seek power to control fish-frying as an offensive trade, thus becoming on a par with neighbouring Authorities. Three notices for repairs upon fish-frying premises were complied with during the year.

Wider power is also required to deal with caravans when they descend upon the district. At the end of the year 7 were removed.

The schools of the district were subjected to a Sanitary Survey, mention of which is made elsewhere in the report.

J. R. OXENHAM.

CANAL BOATS INSPECTIONS.

The following report of the work carried out by the Canal Boats Inspector under the Canal Boats Acts and Regulations during the year ended 31st December 1925, is submitted viz:—

During the year under review 72 boats were inspected and found to be in a satisfactory condition.

The boats examined were registered to accommodate in the aggregate 253 persons, and the total number of persons found on board was 211, consisting of 75 men, 66 women, and 70 children.

It will be observed that the number of boats inspected is less than usual, this being accounted for by the fact that very few boats now stay in this district, the majority being through traffic, and examination is only possible when boats stop for gauging purposes.

There is a continued improvement in the condition of the cabins inspected, and on the whole they were in a very sanitary state.

One noticeable feature on the canal at the present time is the ever increasing number of motor boats engaged, more than 30 of this style of craft passing through Coseley district at regular intervals.

The advent of motor power on our canals during the past few years has resulted in a marked improvement in the living conditions of the workers.

With horse drawn boats, much of the time of the captain and incidentally his wife and family, is taken up with the care of the horse whereas with motor boats, which are controlled by one person, the wife and family are left free to take complete charge of the living quarter.

I have had no occasion to notify any owner of defects during the year.

No case of overcrowding or sickness was met with on board.

TABLE I

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR.

	Up to Nov. 9th	Nov. 9th to Dec. 31st	Total for the Year
Houses Inspected		16	
Complaints received	166	98	264
Visits re complaints	159	107	266
Inspections	272	82	354
Re-inspections	868	169	1037
Visits to works in progress	101	28	129
Visits to Yards and Courts	578	39	617
Visits re pig-keeping	36	13	49
Visits re fowls		5	5
Visits to cowsheds	61	10	71
Visits to milkshops	24		24
Visits to stables	1	10	11
Visits to slaughterhouses	380	85	465
Visits re killing on private premises	87	56	143
Visits to meat shops	186	59	245
Infectious cases visited	17	17	34
Houses disinfected	22	12	34
Visits to Workshops	26	4	30
Visits to bakehouses	34	3	37
Visits to offensive trades	5	9	14
Miscellaneous visits	2	12	14
Visits to caravan dwellings		14	14
Totals	2859	734	3593

TABLE IIA.
DEFECTS.

	Jan. to Sept.	Oct.	Nov. & Dec.	Total
Wood floors defective	16	3	35	54
Quarry floors defective	16	3	23	42
Walls, brickwork defective	4	3	19	26
Walls, plaster defective	26	7	83	116
Walls in a dirty condition	65	7	68	140
Ceilings, plaster defective	38	7	69	114
Ceilings in a dirty condition	63	7	44	114
General woodwork, defective	11		1	12
Windows fixed	10		11	21
Window frames etc. defective	31	7	82	120
Staircase, plaster defective	11		5	16
Staircase, walls dirty	20		4	24
Staircase, stairs defective	7		30	37
Cellar in a dirty condition			5	5
Cellar steps defective			4	4
Cellar flooded	4		10	14
Foodstore, improper			3	3
Foodstore, dirty	22		1	23
Floor-surfaces dirty	6			6
Bedding dirty	4		5	9
Overcrowding	8		18	26
House in a damp condition	89	6	45	140
Roof defective	121	6	40	167
Eaves' gutter, or R.W.P. defective	40	11	25	76
Eaves' gutter, or R.W.P. choked	59		13	72
Eaves' gutter, or R.W.P. missing	12		1	13
Brickwork defective	14			14
Brickwork requires pointing	3			3
Chimneys defective	81		3	84
Washhouse, brickwork defective	44		18	62
Washhouse, roof defective	34		39	73
Washhouse, floors defective	13		12	25
Sink defective or improper	15		11	26
Yard paving defective	5		1	6
Yard surface dirty			16	16
Premises improperly drained	4		14	18
Premises not connected to sewer			9	9
Drainage defective	9		24	33
Yard gulleys defective			3	3
Chambers defective	3		2	5
Chamber cover broken	11		8	19
Drain improperly ventilated			9	9
Drain choked	21		21	42
Sanitary accommodation insufficient	1		9	10
Foul defective privy midden			31	31
Foul defective vault			8	8
Roofs of closets defective	14		5	19
Walls of Closets defective	24		7	31
Water closet choked			1	1
Premises without ash accommodation	6		9	15
Ashpits defective or ashbins dilapidated	7		41	48
Fowls, ducks etc. kept as to be a nuisance			11	11
Pigs so kept as to be a nuisance	4		2	6
Offensive accumulations	9		24	33
Privy generally defective			9	9
No water supply			9	9
Dangerous cellar openings			3	3
House infested with vermin			1	1
Totals	1005	67	1004	2076
Premises affected	414	20	206	640

TABLE IIIA.
IMPROVEMENTS.

	Jan. to Oct.	Nov. and Dec.	Total
Wood floors repaired	13	4	17
Quarry floors repaired	11	4	15
Walls, brickwork repaired	5		5
Walls, plaster repaired	24	6	30
Walls, cleansed	47	9	56
Ceilings, plaster repaired	29	4	33
Ceiling cleansed	45	15	60
General woodwork repaired	4	1	5
Windows made to open	23	5	28
Windows repaired	20	4	24
Staircase, plaster repaired	5	5	10
Staircase, walls cleansed	17	3	20
Staircase, stairs repaired	6	2	8
Foodstore provided	5	1	6
Foodstore cleansed	18	3	21
Floor surfaces cleansed	9	2	11
Bedding cleansed	5	3	8
Overcrowding abated	7	2	9
Roof repaired	108	11	119
Roof stripped and re-slatted, or tiled	5	1	6
Eaves' gutters or R.W.P. repaired	28	6	34
Eaves' gutters or R.W.P. un-stopped	40	9	49
Eaves' gutters or R.W.P. provided	10	3	13
Brickwork repaired	15	4	19
Brickwork pointed	7	1	8
Chimneys repaired	71	13	84
Washhouse, brickwork repaired	32	7	39
Washhouse, roof repaired	22	4	26
Washhouse, floors repaired	12	3	15
New sink provided	12	2	14
Yard paved	4	2	6
Yard surface cleansed	1	2	3
Drainage repaired	9	3	12
Chamber cover provided	7	4	11
Stoppage removed	17	4	21
Pail privy provided	3	1	4
Roofs of closets repaired	3	1	4
Walls of closets repaired	15	2	17
New water closet pedestal provided	1	2	3
Ashbin provided	3	7	10
Ashpit improved or repaired	8	3	11
Fowls, ducks etc. nuisance abated		9	9
Pigs nuisance abated	4	1	5
Offensive accumulations removed	6	1	7
New washhouse provided	3		3
Totals	739	179	918
Premises Affected	347	51	398

TABLE IVA.

COSELEY HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS—YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total	29
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts 1919, 1923, 1924	
(1) By Local Authority	Nil
(2) By other bodies or persons	29
Other buildings converted into dwelling houses	3

1. Inspection.

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	237
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulation 1910	81
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4) Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	124

II. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority, or their own Officers	49
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III. Action under Statutory Powers.

(a) Proceedings under Section 28 of Housing, Town Planning etc., Act, 1919	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	75
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied	
(a) By Owners	63
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning etc., Act 1909.	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	1
(4) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

